

The Watchman and Southron

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 1895.

Tillman to the Alliance.

He Favors Free Silver and Independent Action--The Democratic Party May Take Care of Itself.

The Alliance Meeting at Tirzah--A Political Meeting Pure and Simple.

The following report of Senator Tillman's speech at Tirzah is taken from *The State*. There were other speeches--Marion Butler, of North Carolina, and Gov. Evans, but their speeches were of secondary importance compared with the speech of Senator Tillman.

"When I received the invitation to speak at Tirzah my mind travelled back to 1886. Capt. Tillman, who had been raising some rumpus in the *News and Courier* with his pen, was invited to York."

The Senator then indulged in a little fun at his own expense, and referred to the old Tirzah, where he made his first extemporaneous speech nine years ago.

"I had been tongue-tied previous to that, but the people of York clipped it, and my tongue has been wagging ever since."

He was glad to be on hand to-day. He thought they liked him, because he had always tried to tell them the truth. This was what he wanted to do now. This was an Alliance meeting. The Alliance was not so strong in numbers as heretofore, but as an educative force its principles were stronger than ever. He felt proud that the Alliance was the organization through our principles of reform had been advanced. Why are you so poor? He said that Senator Butler told a truth when he said fifty voters in one party are cutting fifty other votes in a different party.

"Look at your condition. Although the United States has produced unexampled crops for many years, there are millions of our people starving, and other millions naked. We will always be Democratic in principle, because we sucked those principles with our mother's milk, but we cannot continue to wear the livery of a party in which such debauchery and treachery exist."

"When you look back at the repeal of the Sherman law you find that the Republicans and Democrats of the Northern section voted without regard to party lines. They buy your Congressmen up there at Washington like you buy sheep. They also controlled the nomination for President in both parties."

It did not matter whether Harrison or Cleveland was elected. The Republicans had been trying for years to demonetize silver and could not do it. The change of the government from one party to another enabled Cleveland, by the use of the patronage, to demonetize silver. The greedy Democrats who had pledged the people to fight for silver, sold their votes for offices for their friends or for money. I don't know which, and the conspiracy was consummated. The Democratic platform was good enough to be elected on, but not worth carry out. The result has been that our yardstick which measures values has been cut in half, with the effect of doubling the purchasing power of the gold dollar. It takes now twice as much of labor or the products of labor, to buy a dollar. Everything has shrunk in value except debts. To all intents and purposes they have been doubled. I will illustrate. If a man had ten biscuits and there were two plates of butter, one white and one yellow, and you threw away the white (silver), there is only half as much butter to the biscuit as there was before. The shrinkage in the amount of butter represents the shrinkage of the price of commodities, and until we make them bring back that other plate of butter all the producers of this country will have to spread it very thin, and a great many will have neither bread nor butter.

It is clear that both old parties are disintegrating and a new alignment is in process of formation. Party ties are weakened. Like drowning men who catch at straws, the people are casting about for means of relief. The issue has heretofore been obscured or sidetracked, but in the next Presidential campaign the only question will be the financial question. A new Mason & Dixon's line is forming on the one side with the Northeastern section, consisting of the creditor and manufacturing States. On the other side will be a Solid South allied with a practically Solid West.

An examination of the census reports will indicate the enormous increase in the wealth of the New England and Middle States, as compared with the rest of the country, and even a fool must know that it is the result of legal robbery and unjust discrimination by Congress.

Democracy is a dear name to us, but we no longer have the substance--we have only the shadow. Aesop's fable of the dog and the shadow will illustrate the situation and show the condition of those of us who cling to the name, whilst we can't get the substance.

We had a very small bone under the Sherman act. We snapped at the shadow of a great relief promised in the Chicago platform and the restoration of the Democracy of power, and we have lost the little bone we had and got nothing.

At Memphis, I undertook to represent the people of South Carolina and told the friends of silver that if we could not get a man whom we could trust in the Democratic party on a platform that was unequivocal and explicit, we would cast our electoral vote for the candidate of some other party.

"Did I represent you?" (One or two "Noes" and a chorus of "Yes" were heard.)

"Well, I'll take a hand primary on it. I don't want you to declare yourselves Populists. I ask all of you who are willing to vote for a man for President, pledged to free silver, whether he be a democrat or not, to hold up your hands."

(There was a forest of open palms in the air in a moment, only one man, Mr. Hull, voting in the negative, amid derisive cries.)

"Now, gentlemen, he's not to blame--he's only blind. I respect and admire men who disagree with me, but who have the manhood to stand by their convictions."

"We are all white men, but for God's sake, for South Carolina's sake, never let it be said that the white men appealed to the negro to arbitrate their differences. I am no Populist. The Democratic party in the Northwest has been practically disbanded in ten or twelve States. What hope have we of electing a Democratic President? What sort of a hope have we for genuine Democracy to win in the next general election? The result of the last election indicates that the Republicans have strong hopes of electing the next President and there are many men in the South who think it a good time to join that party in the hope of getting office. I have been looking for some new converts to that party in this State, but so far none have announced themselves. Can we stand four more years of this sort of thing, boys?" Well, we have stood so much of it that I don't believe you can stand any more of it, but my God, it is so awfully tiresome.

"While the South is practically solid for silver our condition of financial slavery is almost intolerable. We must endure our suffering until the hand of American brotherhood is reached out to us by the Northwestern farmers, and they cry aloud in their distress, 'Come, help us.' The only hope is to ally the South and West together against the North and East, but don't let us impose the condition on those seeking the Alliance that we go as Democrats alone. Those people despise that name. That hatred is an inheritance of the war--just as we hate the name Republican. Those States contain a larger percentage of Union soldiers than any others, because they moved there just after the war to get soldiers' homesteads and they have been accustomed to connect the word Democrat and Copperhead together just as we connect Republican and negro together. Those people are now being ground to powder between the upper and nether mill stones. Why not both sides give up party names and meet half way? If your house is burning down, will you stay in it because it is labeled Democratic. We can't take the name of Populists because they have too many 'isms' and radical ideas, and they have pandered too much to socialism. They call me an anarchist--a right bran new one--but I cannot stand many things in the Populist platform. Why, in God's name, stay here and go down with the hull of the old rotten Democratic ship? At Memphis I trod on some Democratic toes. But on the other hand you should have heard the wild hurrahs of those who agreed with me. It was like a Tillmanite campaign meeting in 1890. Now they talk about a ring. Yes, it's a hand-all-round ring of 60,000 Reform Democratic voters--and I am proud to belong to it."

CONTROLLED BY TRAITORS.

"I cannot see how any man can stand by the Democracy when it is controlled by such traitors as Cleveland and Carlisle. I say to you now--when the time comes we can deliver the electoral vote. I believe, I know we can do it (Applause). The only test heretofore in this State, of Democracy, has been white supremacy. The only obstacle to the union of the friends of silver is the loaves and fishes of the local officer. The desire to control these has more to do with the continuation of the existing parties than the principles. The local machines in each State are the greatest barriers to the formation of a new national financial party. The American people should narrow down their local politics and come together. For myself, I am so disgusted that I am ready to throw up the name and give up the party. We must join the people of the North-west. The friends of silver are in the majority--45,000,000 out of the 70,000,000 in this republic--but they are held down. All they want is the opportunity to get together. Shall we let this matter of name keep us apart?"

Senator Tillman then referred to the buying up of the metropolitan newspapers and news agencies by the goldbugs. "Their cry," said Tillman, "is that the silver craze is dying out. There was never a more brazen falsehood. There is no silver craze to begin with. Our people are not fools, and they are only striving with the intensity of despair to release our government from the grasp of the octopus to prevent the torres from selling us into

bondage to the British goldbugs. They understand the issue perfectly, as will be proven when the time comes to vote. I think I can safely say the South is solid for financial relief. When we meet the Northwestern people we must be ready to go ahead and organize the new party. Let the name be what it will. Let us determine here now that we will get together, and that the goldbugs will see how little reliance is to be placed on the cry that the silver craze is dying."

Senator Tillman spoke forty minutes and was frequently applauded.

A CHANCE FOR CHEAP OIL.

BRADFORD, Pa., July 26.--There was a drop of 15 cents in crude oil to-day from Thursday's closing price; \$1.45. The pipe line agencies began buying at \$1.42 this morning and continued at this price until about 11.30, when there was a temporary suspension of business in the agencies here, lasting perhaps fifteen minutes, and no credit balances were purchased. When business was resumed again \$1.37½ was the price paid, which was continued until the close.

On the Oil Exchange floor the best price at the close was \$1.37½ cents below the Standard purchasing agency price.

There is a large crop of new wells due, and the drop in prices is taken as a criterion that some new field is to be tapped. There is no precedent for even momentary suspension of buying credit balances by the Standard or Tidewater agencies, and to-day's action caused considerable surprise and comment about town.

In answer to a query as to the cause of the temporary suspension of business by the purchasing agencies Mr. Joseph Seep, buyer for the Standard Oil Company, wires the United Press from Oil City that he knew nothing of such action.

Shot With His Own Weapon.

BRANDENBURG, Ky., July 25.--George Robinson, the keeper of the work house in this place, was shot and killed this morning by Bland Shacklett, one of the commissioners of the institution. Shacklett and another gentleman were riding into town in a buggy, and when within three miles of town, Robinson rode out of a cross road and, it is said, began cursing Shacklett. Robinson soon began firing and one bullet hit Shacklett in the mouth, lodging just beyond the ear. Three others missed him. Shacklett, although wounded, took Robinson's pistol away from him and fired one bullet into Robinson's right breast. The man fell and died in a moment.

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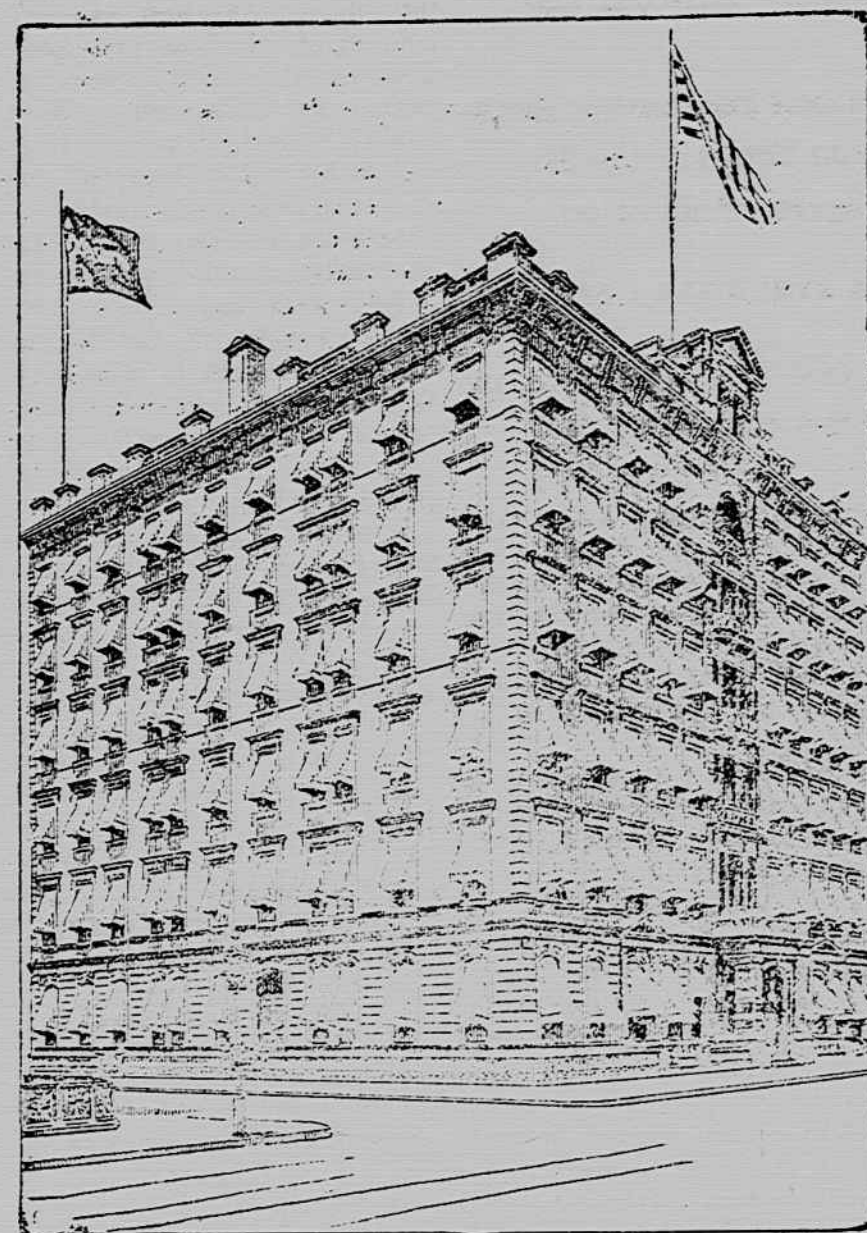
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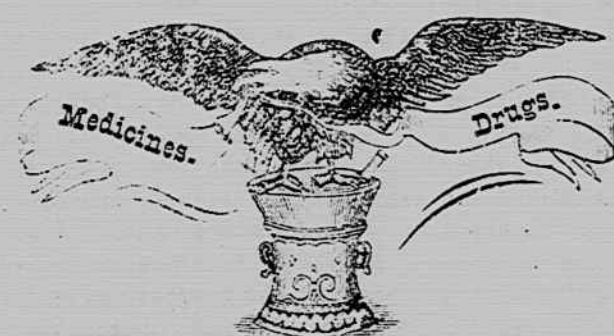
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